

Appl. No. : ~~Unknown~~
Filed : Herewith

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-26 without prejudice.

Please add Claims 27-30 as follows:

27. (New) A method of generating billing data for subscribers in a telecommunications system by administering a shared usage plan, comprising:

registering a plurality of groups of subscribers, each of said groups comprising a plurality of subscribers for which a single shared usage plan is held;

assigning a shared usage allocation of an original magnitude to each of said groups that is available for usage by the group at a beginning of a predetermined period, wherein the original magnitude of each shared usage plan is predetermined in accordance with the shared usage plan held by a group;

maintaining a record for each group of subscribers, wherein the record includes subscriber identification data for each subscriber and the shared usage allocation assigned to the group;

determining if a subscriber of one of said groups uses a telecommunications service;

accessing, upon determining that the subscriber uses the telecommunications service, the record for the group of which the subscriber is a member; and

analyzing call data so as to apply one of a number of different predetermined call charging tariffs to a call made by the subscriber, in dependence of the group of which the subscriber is a member, in order to generate charging data for said call and to allow a common charging tariff to be applied for each subscriber in a group for which a combined subscription is held when said shared usage allocation has been exhausted.

28. (New) The method of Claim 27, wherein the original magnitude is a predetermined number of minutes.

29. (New) The method of Claim 27, wherein the original magnitude is a predetermined amount of money.